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**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER
DECEMBER 2007**

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during December 2007 totaled 147.8 million pounds, up 19 percent from the same month a year earlier but 11 percent below November 2007. **Beef** slaughter during December was up 23 percent from a year ago to 171,800 head but the average live weight decreased 6 pounds to 1,325. **Hog** slaughter was placed at 500 head for December 2007, down from 700 head a year earlier. The average live weight of 249 pounds was down 8 pounds from a year earlier. The preliminary **total red meat production** for all months of 2007 totaled 1.89 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the 1.83 billion pounds produced during 2006.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.06 billion pounds in December, up 5 percent from the 3.87 billion pounds produced in December 2006. **Beef production**, at 2.06 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.65 million head, up 1 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 1,302 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.4 million pounds, 21 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 61,000 head, down 11 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was down 35 pounds from last year, at 289 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.97 billion pounds, up 10 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.69 million head, up 9 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.4 million pounds, was down 1 percent from December 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 229,100 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, down 1 pound from December a year ago.

January to December 2007 commercial red meat production was 48.7 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006.

Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Species	Dec. 2006	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	January-December	
				2006	2007
Million Pounds					
Colorado:	123.8	165.5	147.8	1,828.6	1,887.4
United States:	3,874.5	4,300.6	4,058.1	47,537.3	48,677.3
Beef	2,049.5	2,229.1	2,059.4	26,151.8	26,415.4
Veal	13.1	10.1	10.4	146.6	137.3
Pork	1,796.4	2,045.4	1,972.9	21,053.8	21,941.6
Lamb & Mutton	15.4	16.1	15.4	185.2	183.0

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

**CATTLE INVENTORY
JANUARY 1, 2008**

The January 1, 2008 inventory of all cattle and calves in **Colorado** totaled 2.75 million head, up 50,000 head from January 1, 2007. Beef cows, at 730,000 head, were up 5,000 from the previous year. Milk cows increased 5,000 head from last year to 120,000 head. Colorado's 2007 calf crop was up 1 percent from 2006 to 790,000.

Other class estimates as of January 1, 2008 and percent changes from 2007 were as follows: Beef replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, up 13 percent from last year to 130,000; milk replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, up 17 percent to 70,000 head; other heifers 500 pounds and over, up 5 percent to 590,000; steers 500 pounds and over, down 4 percent to 890,000; bulls 500 pounds and over, up 11 percent to 50,000; and calves under 500 pounds, up 13 percent to 170,000 head. The total inventory included 1,140,000 head of cattle and calves on feed, which was up 1 percent from January 1, 2007.

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2008, totaled 96.7 million head, slightly below the 97.0 million on January 1, 2007. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.8 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.0 million on January 1, 2007. Beef cows, at 32.6 million, were down 1 percent from January 1, 2007. Milk cows, at 9.22 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2007. Other class estimates on January 1, 2008, and the change from January 1, 2007, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, down slightly. Beef replacement heifers, 5.67 million, down 4 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.46 million, up 3 percent. Other heifers, 9.88 million, down slightly. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 17.3 million, up slightly.

Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.21 million, down slightly. Calves under 500 pounds, 15.4 million, down 1 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.3 million, up slightly. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, down slightly. The 2007 calf crop was estimated at 37.4 million head, down slightly from 2006. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.2 million, down 1 percent from 2006.

SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY

JANUARY 1, 2008

The January 1, 2008 inventory of all sheep and lambs in **Colorado** totaled 420,000 head, up 5 percent from the 400,000 on hand as of January 1, 2007. The number of breeding sheep and lambs was unchanged from last year at 190,000 head while the number of market sheep and lambs increased 10 percent to 230,000. There was a 6 percent increase in the number of replacement lambs to 34,000 head. The number of ewes one year old and older decreased 1 percent from last year to 150,000 head, while the number of rams one year old and older remained unchanged from last year at 6,000 head. Of the 230,000 head of market sheep and lambs, 2,000 head were market sheep and 228,000 head were market lambs. There were 4,000 lambs weighing less than 65 pounds this year, up 3,000 from a year earlier; 28,000 were in the 65-84 pound weight group, up 8,000 from the previous year; 41,000 weighed 85-105 pounds compared with 37,000 last year; and 155,000 weighed over 105 pounds compared with the 150,000 head in this weight group on January 1, 2007. The 2007 lamb crop, at 180,000 head, was down 5 percent from the 2006 lamb crop of 190,000.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2008, totaled 6.06 million head, down 2 percent from 2007. After consecutive increases in 2005 and 2006, inventory has now declined for the past two years. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.51 million head on January 1, 2008, down 2 percent from the 4.61 million head on January 1, 2007. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.62 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2008, totaled 1.55 million head, down slightly from January 1, 2007. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-four percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 26 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 36 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings. The 2007 lamb crop of 4.05 million head, was down slightly from 2006. The 2007 lambing rate was 110 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2007, down 1 percent from 2006.

WOOL PRODUCTION – 2007

Wool production in **Colorado** during 2007 totaled 2.70 million pounds, up from 2.6 million pounds produced in 2006. The number of all sheep and lambs shorn, at 400,000 head, was up 5 percent from 380,000 head shorn a year earlier. The value of wool production for 2007 totaled \$2.70 million, up 39 percent from a year earlier as producers received 100 dollar per pound of wool sold compared with 75 cents per pound the previous year.

Shorn wool production in the **United States** during 2007 was 34.5 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2006. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.71 million head, down 3 percent from 2006. The average price paid for wool sold in 2007 was \$0.88 per pound for a total value of 30.3 million dollars, up 23 percent from 24.5 million dollars in 2006.

GOAT INVENTORY

JANUARY 1, 2008

All goat inventory in **Colorado** on January 1, 2008, totaled 43,000 head. Meat and all other goats accounted for 32,000 head compared with 35,000 on January 1, 2007. Milk goats totaled 9,000 head, up from 8,000 head a year ago, and Angora goats were up to 2,000 head from 1,500 head last year.

All goat inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2008, totaled 3.02 million head, up 3 percent from 2007. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.50 million head up 2 percent from 2007. All market goats and kids totaled 520,000 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2008 meat and all other goats totaled 2.50 million head, up 4 percent from 2007. Milk goat inventory increased 4 percent to 305,000 head while angora goats were down 12 percent totaling 210,000 head. The 2007 kid crop totaled 1.94 million head for all goats, up 1 percent from 2006. Mohair production in the United States during 2007 was 1.14 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 185,000 head. Average weight per clip was 6.20 pounds. Mohair price was \$3.78 per pound with a value of 4.31 million dollars.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

JANUARY 15, 2008

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 150 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 6 points (4.2 percent) from December. The Crop Index is up 16 points (11 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 4 points (2.9 percent).

The January All Farm Products Index is 150 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 4.2 percent from the December index and 22 percent above the January 2007 index. The January all wheat price, at \$8.55 per bushel, is up 81 cents from December and \$4.02 above January 2007. The corn price, at \$4.28 per bushel, is up 52 cents from last month and \$1.23 above January 2007. The all hay price, at \$129 per ton, is down \$4.00 from December but up \$20.00 from last January. Grain sorghum, at \$8.23 per cwt, is \$1.30 above December and \$1.92 above January last year. The soybean price, at \$11.00 per bushel, increased \$1.00 from December and is \$4.63 above January 2007. The all potato price, at \$7.11 per cwt, is up 2 cents from December and 5 cents from last January. The all dry bean price, at \$28.40 per cwt, is up \$1.40 from the previous month and \$5.70 above January 2007.

The January **Livestock and Products Index**, at 132, is 2.9 percent below last month but up 14 percent from January 2007. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for milk, cattle, broilers, eggs, turkeys, and calves.

The January hog price, at \$36.50 per cwt, is down \$3.10 from December and \$6.20 lower than a year ago. The January beef cattle price of \$89.40 per cwt is up 50 cents from last month and \$5.10 higher than January 2007. The January all milk price of \$20.70 per cwt is down 80 cents from last month but up \$6.20 from January 2007. The fluid grade milk and the manufacturing grade milk prices are down 70 cents from the previous month.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2006		2007		2008
	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	
	Percent				
Prices Received	120	123	144	150	
Prices Paid.....	151	155	165	168	
Ratio <u>1/</u>	79	79	87	89	

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid.

Compared with January 2007, all **Colorado** crop prices averaged higher except other hay which average lower and alfalfa hay remained unchanged. Prices for all livestock items averaged higher than a year ago. Mid-January 2008 wheat, at \$7.90 per bushel, increased 65 cents from the previous month and was \$3.35 above January a year ago. Corn, at \$4.30 per bushel, averaged 70 cents above December 2007 and was \$1.17 ahead of January 2007. The mid-January potato price, at \$8.75 per cwt, was up 40 cents from last month and increased 75 cents per cwt from January a year ago. Dry beans prices decreased \$2.80 per cwt from December to \$27.60 per cwt but were \$6.40 per cwt higher than January last year. Alfalfa hay, at \$140.00 per ton, was unchanged from both last month and January 2007. The other hay price, at \$125.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month but was \$1.00 below the January 2007 price. The mid-January steer and heifer price, at \$100.00 per cwt, was down \$6.00 from last month but up \$4.90 from a year ago. Cow prices increased \$1.60 per cwt from December to \$46.80 per cwt and averaged 90 cents per cwt above January 2007. The mid-January 2008 calf price decreased \$1.00 from last month to \$116.00 per cwt but was up \$6.00 from a year ago. The January all milk price of \$21.00 per cwt was down 30 cents from last month but increased \$6.10 from a year ago.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Jan. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	4.55	7.25	7.90
Corn	Bu.	3.13	3.60	4.30
Barley (All)	Bu.	<u>2/</u>	3.43	<u>2/</u>
Potatoes	Cwt	8.00	8.35	8.75
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	21.20	30.40	27.60
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	140.00	140.00	140.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	126.00	125.00	125.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	94.10	105.00	98.90
Steers & heifers	Cwt	95.10	106.00	100.00
Cows	Cwt	45.90	45.20	46.80
Calves.....	Cwt	110.00	117.00	116.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	32.00	30.00	<u>3/</u>
Lambs.....	Cwt	94.00	100.00	<u>3/</u>
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.90	21.30	21.00
United States				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	4.53	7.74	8.55
Corn	Bu.	3.05	3.76	4.28
Soybeans	Bu.	6.37	10.00	11.00
Barley (All)	Bu.	3.03	4.51	4.92
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	3.11	4.78	5.23
Sorghum.....	Cwt	6.31	6.93	8.23
Potatoes	Cwt	7.06	7.09	7.11
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	22.70	27.00	28.40
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	112.00	136.00	135.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	104.00	126.00	118.00
Onions	Cwt	22.10	4.13	3.85
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	84.30	88.90	89.40
Steers & heifers	Cwt	89.80	95.10	95.20
Cows	Cwt	44.40	44.90	46.20
Calves.....	Cwt	115.00	118.00	116.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	37.10	29.70	<u>3/</u>
Lambs.....	Cwt	96.50	98.50	<u>3/</u>
Hogs	Cwt	42.70	39.60	36.50
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.50	21.50	20.70
Broilers.....	Lb.	.430	.440	.480

1/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands and should not be confused with prices of specific grades or classes of a particular agricultural commodity. They do not include direct government payments.

2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure. 3/ Mid-month prices discontinued.

GRAZING FEE RATES 2007

Colorado monthly grazing fee rates for private, non-irrigated grazing land in 2007 increased from last year for the animal unit per month (AUM) and cow-calf basis, with AUM averaging \$15.00 per month and cow-calf rates averaging \$16.70 per month. On a per head basis, the average price increased slightly from 2006 to \$15.10 per month.

Grazing fee rates for the 17 Western States listed in the table averaged higher in all three categories from the previous year. The animal unit rate rose 70 cents to \$14.50 per month, an increase of 5 percent from 2006. Cow-calf rates increased \$1.10 to \$16.90 representing an increase of 7 percent from last year. The per head rate for 2007 increased 40 cents to \$14.80.

Grazing Fee Rates for Cattle by Selected States and Regions

Survey Average Rates ^{1/}						
State	Animal Unit ^{2/}		Cow-Calf		Per Head	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Dollars per Month		Dollars per Month		Dollars per Month	
AZ	8.00	8.00	7/	7/	10.00	10.00
CA	16.50	16.50	21.00	21.50	17.00	17.30
CO	14.50	15.00	16.00	16.70	15.00	15.10
ID	12.80	13.80	15.00	16.50	13.50	14.60
KS	13.50	14.00	16.50	17.00	14.00	14.00
MT	16.20	17.80	18.70	20.10	18.30	19.20
NE	24.00	23.00	28.50	27.50	26.00	25.00
NV	13.00	13.00	13.50	14.00	13.00	13.50
NM	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	11.50	12.00
ND	14.50	16.00	16.00	17.50	15.00	15.50
OK	8.30	9.00	10.50	11.00	8.50	9.00
OR	12.50	14.10	15.00	17.00	12.80	13.00
SD	20.30	21.00	24.00	25.20	21.00	23.00
TX	10.00	10.70	10.00	11.80	9.90	10.00
UT	11.70	12.90	14.60	14.60	13.50	14.20
WA	9.60	12.10	12.00	13.70	12.20	12.20
WY	15.10	15.40	17.30	17.90	15.80	16.10
17-State ^{3/}	13.80	14.50	15.80	16.90	14.40	14.80
16-State ^{4/}	15.20	15.90	18.00	18.80	16.20	16.60
11-State ^{5/}	13.90	14.90	16.40	17.40	15.10	15.60
9-State ^{6/}	13.70	14.30	15.60	16.60	14.20	14.50

¹The average rates are estimates based on survey indications of monthly lease rates for private, non-irrigated grazing land from the January Cattle Survey.

² Includes animal unit plus cow-calf rates. Cow-calf rate converted to animal unit (AUM) using (1 aum=cow-calf *0.833).

³ 17 Western States:All States listed.

⁴ 16 Western States:All States except Texas.

⁵ 11 Western States: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY.

⁶ 9 Great Plains States: CO, KS, NE, NM, ND, OK, SD, TX, and WY.

⁷ Insufficient data.

COLD STORAGE - DECEMBER 31, 2007

United States frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on December 31, 2007 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, turkey, pork, and beef. Butter stocks were up 9 percent from last month and up 43 percent from a year ago. Total red meat supplies in freezers were up slightly from the previous month and up 2 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 2 percent from the previous month but up 5 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 62 percent from last month and up 32 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on December 31, 2007 were up 9 percent from the previous month and up 1 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 7 percent from the previous month but down 1 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 15 percent from last month and up 9 percent from December 31, 2006.

Special Note - Beginning with the February 22, 2008 *Cold Storage* release, NASS will discontinue published estimates for government owned butter, cheese, beef and pork due to data quality.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Dec. 31, 2006	Nov 30, 2007	Dec 31, 2007
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	108,605	143,244	155,597
Cheese, total natural	817,437	787,234	794,881
Eggs, frozen	16,478	15,184	14,272
Poultry, total frozen	973,555	904,763	986,863
Chicken.....	750,371	691,934	742,785
Turkey.....	218,356	206,784	238,552
Fruits, frozen.....	1,136,531	1,294,103	1,220,048
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	989,237	935,857	1,076,043
Vegetables, total frozen	2,225,351	2,360,050	2,216,696
Potatoes, total frozen.....	954,820	1,077,165	1,000,940
Meats, total red	946,617	966,245	967,088
Beef, total frozen	482,079	473,477	482,802
Pork, total frozen	442,501	474,289	464,261

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Stocks in space owned or leased by the Armed Forces are excluded. Food stocks held under bond are included in the storage data.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Feb. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
- Feb. 14 - Crop Values
- Feb. 15 - Potato Stocks
- Feb. 15 - Milk Production
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage - Monthly
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage - Annual
- Feb. 22 - Cattle on Feed
- Feb. 22 - Livestock Slaughter
- Feb. 26 - Trout Production
- Feb. 28 - Chickens and Eggs - Annual
- Feb. 29 - Chickens and Eggs - Monthly
- Feb. 29 - Agricultural Prices

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